LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) An editing apparatus, comprising:

first decoding means for decoding a first encoded bit stream to generate a first

base band signal;

second decoding means for decoding a second encoded bit stream to generate a

second base band signal;

detecting means for matching phases of the first base band signal, the second base

band signal, and a third base band signal, and comparing these signals to detect an edit position

at which the first base band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the third base

band signal being obtained by editing the first base band signal and the second base band signal;

re-encoding means for re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third

encoded bit stream; and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the

first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and

the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base

band signal corresponding to the edit position detected by said detecting means to re-encode the

third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

29. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 28, wherein said controlling means controls said re-encoding means to re-encode the third base band signal only in a predetermined period including the edit position detected by said detecting means.

30. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 28, further comprising:

selecting means for selecting the third encoded bit stream generated by said re-encoding means in the predetermined period including the edit position and selecting one of the first encoded bit stream and the second encoded bit stream in other than the predetermined period.

31. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 28, wherein said detecting means matches the phases of the signals of each picture and compares the signals to detect the edit position of each picture.

32. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 31, wherein said controlling means controls said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the first codec information and the second codec information of each picture corresponding to the edit position of each picture to re-encode the third base band signal.

33. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 31, wherein said detecting means obtains the difference of pixels in the same spatial position of pictures of the first base band signal and the third base band signal to detect the edit position of each picture.

34. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 31, wherein said detecting means obtains the difference of pixels in the same spatial position of pictures of the second base band signal and the third base band signal to detect the edit position of each picture.

35. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 33, wherein said detecting means detects a picture of which the difference of the pixels is not zero as the edit position.

36. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said detecting means detects a picture of which the difference of the pixels is not zero as the edit position.

37. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 35, wherein said detecting means detects a picture having a predetermined number of pixels whose difference is not zero as the edit position.

38. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 36, wherein said detecting means detects a picture having a predetermined number of pixels whose difference is not zero as the edit position.

39. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 31, wherein when a picture of the first base band signal and a picture of the second base band signal are present at the edit position of each picture, said controlling means controls said re-encoding means to match the phases of the signals of each macro block, compares the signals, and selectively re-uses the first codec information and the second codec information of each macro block to re-encode the third base band signal.

40. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 31, further comprising:

determining means for determining the picture type of a picture at the edit position detected by said detecting means,

wherein said controlling means detects a prediction objective picture at the edit position corresponding to the picture type determined by said determining means to determine whether to re-use the first codec information and the second codec information of each picture.

41. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 40, wherein when the prediction objective picture is not present in the third base band signal, said control means does not re-use the first codec information and the second codec information.

42. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 40, further comprising:

setting means for setting a picture flag that identifies the presence of a prediction objective picture at the edit position corresponding to the picture type determined by said determining means,

wherein said controlling means references the picture flag that is set by said setting means to determine whether to re-use the first codec information and the second codec information of each picture.

43. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 39, further comprising:

determining means for determining the macro block type of a macro block at the edit position detected by said detecting means,

wherein said controlling means detects a prediction objective macro block at the edit position corresponding to the macro block type determined by said determining means to determine whether to re-use the first codec information and the second codec information of each macro block.

44. (Previously Presented) The editing apparatus as set forth in claim 43, further comprising:

setting means for setting a macro block flag that identifies the presence of a prediction objective macro block at the edit position corresponding to the macro block type determined by said determining means,

wherein said controlling means references the macro block flag that is set by said

setting means to determine whether to re-use the first codec information and the second codec

information of each macro block.

45. (Currently Amended) An editing apparatus, comprising:

first decoding means for decoding a first encoded bit stream to generate a first

base band signal;

second decoding means for decoding a second encoded bit stream to generate a

second base band signal;

detecting means for matching the phases of the first base band signal and a third

base band signal and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which the first base

band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the third base band signal being

obtained by editing the first base band signal and the second base band signal;

re-encoding means for re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third

encoded bit stream; and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the

first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and

the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base

band signal corresponding to the edit position detected by said detecting means to re-encode the

third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

46. (Currently Amended) An editing apparatus, comprising:

first decoding means for decoding a first encoded bit stream to generate a first

base band signal;

second decoding means for decoding a second encoded bit stream to generate a

second base band signal;

detecting means for matching the phases of the second base band signal and a

third base band signal and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which the first

base band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the third base band signal being

obtained by editing the first base band signal and the second base band signal;

re-encoding means for re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third

encoded bit stream; and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the

first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and

the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base

band signal corresponding to the edit position detected by said detecting means to re-encode the

third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

47. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding apparatus, comprising:

detecting means for matching the phases of a first base band signal, a second base

band signal, and a third base band signal and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at

which the first base band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the first base

band signal being obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream, the second base band signal

being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being

obtained by editing the first base band signal and the second base band signal;

re-encoding means for re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third

encoded bit stream; and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the

first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and

the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base

band signal corresponding to the edit position detected by said detecting means to re-encode the

third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

48. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding apparatus, comprising:

detecting means for matching the phases of a first base band signal and a third

base band signal and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which the first base

band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the first base band signal being

obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being obtained by

editing the first base band signal and a second base band signal, the second base band signal

being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream;

re-encoding means for re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third

encoded bit stream; and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the

first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and

the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base

band signal corresponding to the edit position detected by said detecting means to re-encode the

third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

49. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding apparatus, comprising:

detecting means for matching the phases of a second base band signal and a third

base band signal and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which a first base band

signal and the second base band signal are connected, the second base band signal being obtained

by decoding a second encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being obtained by editing

the first base band signal and the second base band signal, the first base band signal being

obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream;

re-encoding means for re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third

encoded bit stream; and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the

first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and

the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base

band signal corresponding to the edit position detected by said detecting means to re-encode the

third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

50. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding apparatus, comprising:

re-encoding means for re-encoding a third base band signal to generate a third

encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being obtained by editing a first base band signal

and a second band signal, the first base band signal being obtained by decoding a first encoded

bit stream, the second base band signal being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream;

and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the

first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and

the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base

band signal corresponding to an edit position at which the first base band signal and the second

base band signal are connected and that is detected by matching the phases of the first base band

signal, the second base band signal, and the third base band signal and comparing these signals to

re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

51. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding apparatus, comprising:

re-encoding means for re-encoding a third base band signal to generate a third

encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being obtained by editing a first base band signal

and a second band signal, the first base band signal being obtained by decoding a first encoded

bit stream, the second base band signal being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream;

and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding to an edit position at which the first base band signal and the second base band signal are connected and that is detected by matching the phases of the first base band signal and the third base band signal and comparing these signals to re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

52. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding apparatus, comprising:

re-encoding means for re-encoding a third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being obtained by editing a first base band signal and a second band signal, the first base band signal being obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream, the second base band signal being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream; and

controlling means for controlling said re-encoding means to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding to an edit position at which the first base band signal and the second base band signal are connected and that is detected by matching the phases of the second base band signal and the third base band signal and comparing these signals to re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

53. (Currently Amended) An editing method, comprising the steps of:

decoding a first encoded bit stream to generate a first base band signal;

decoding a second encoded bit stream to generate a second base band signal;

matching the phases of the first base band signal, the second base band signal, and

a third base band signal, and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which the first

base band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the third base band signal being

obtained by editing the first base band signal and the second base band signal;

re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream

or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit

stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding

to the edit position detected at the detecting step to re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

54. (Currently Amended) An editing method, comprising the steps of:

decoding a first encoded bit stream to generate a first base band signal;

decoding a second encoded bit stream to generate a second base band signal;

matching the phases of the first base band signal and a third base band signal and

comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which the first base band signal and a second

base band signal are connected, the third base band signal being obtained by editing the first base

band signal and the second base band signal;

re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream

or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit

stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding

to the edit position detected at the detecting step to re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

55. (Currently Amended) An editing method, comprising the steps of:

decoding a first encoded bit stream to generate a first base band signal;

decoding a second encoded bit stream to generate a second base band signal;

matching the phases of the second base band signal and a third base band signal

and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which the first base band signal and a

second base band signal are connected, the third base band signal being obtained by editing the

first base band signal and the second base band signal;

re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream

or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit

stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding

to the edit position detected at the detecting step to re-encode the third base band signal,

<u>wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a</u> <u>quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.</u>

56. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding method, comprising the steps of:

matching the phases of a first base band signal and a third base band signal and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which the first base band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the first base band signal being obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being obtained by editing the first base band signal and a second base band signal, the second base band signal being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream;

re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding to the edit position detected at the detecting step to re-encode the third base band signal,

<u>wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a</u> <u>quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.</u>

57. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding method, comprising the steps of:

matching the phases of a second base band signal and a third base band signal and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which a first base band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the second base band signal being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being obtained by editing the first base

band signal and the second base band signal, the first base band signal being obtained by

decoding a first encoded bit stream;

re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream

or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit

stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding

to the edit position detected at the detecting step to re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

58. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding method, comprising the steps of:

matching the phases of a first base band signal, a second base band signal, and a

third base band signal and comparing these signals to detect an edit position at which the first

base band signal and the second base band signal are connected, the first base band signal being

obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream, the second base band signal being obtained by

decoding the second encoded bit stream, the third base band signal being obtained by editing the

first base band signal and the second base band signal;

re-encoding the third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream

or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit

stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding

to the edit position detected at the detecting step to re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a
quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

59. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding method, comprising the steps of:

re-encoding a third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream, the
third base band signal being obtained by editing a first base band signal and a second band
signal, the first base band signal being obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream, the
second base band signal being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream
or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit
stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding
to an edit position at which the first base band signal and the second base band signal are
connected and that is detected by matching the phases of the first base band signal and the third
base band signal and comparing these signals to re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a
quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

60. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding method, comprising the steps of:

re-encoding a third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream, the
third base band signal being obtained by editing a first base band signal and a second base band
signal, the first base band signal being obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream, the
second base band signal being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream

or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit

stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding

to an edit position at which the first base band signal and the second base band signal are

connected and that is detected by matching the phases of the second base band signal and the

third base band signal and comparing these signals to re-encode the third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.

61. (Currently Amended) A re-encoding method, comprising the steps of:

re-encoding a third base band signal to generate a third encoded bit stream, the

third base band signal being obtained by editing a first base band signal and a second band

signal, the first base band signal being obtained by decoding a first encoded bit stream, the

second base band signal being obtained by decoding a second encoded bit stream; and

controlling the re-encoding step to selectively re-use the first encoded bit stream

or first codec information used to generate the first base band signal and the second encoded bit

stream or second codec information used to generate the second base band signal corresponding

to an edit position at which the first base band signal and the second base band signal are

connected and that is detected by matching the phases of the first base band signal, the second

base band signal, and the third base band signal and comparing these signals to re-encode the

third base band signal,

wherein the codec information includes a moving vector, a picture type, a

quantizing step size, and a quantizing scale.